

## BART/UW CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY



Posing with General Manager Keith Bernard (center) are representatives of local employment associations who are encouraging BART employees to participate in this year's United Way campaign. Pictured from left to right are: Rod Farrow of United Way, Glenn Nunes of BPOA, John Thomas of BARTSPA, Bernard, Hank White of ATU Local 1555, John Kerwin of BPMA and Al Garcia, Campaign Co-Coordinator.

"Individual Involvement—The United Way" is the theme for BART's 29th annual United Way fund-raising campaign.

The drive will be kicked off Oct. 15 at a rally beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Lake Merritt. Refreshments will be served after which the entertainers and General Manager Keith Bernard will take the show "on the road" to Hayward and Concord, ending up at the Richmond Yard.

"Individual involvement is really what we are striving for to attain the goal for this year," Bernard said. "We must be able to convince individuals that their involvement is personal and that they can control the manner in which their donations are to be used."

The goal this year is 70 percent employee participation, up two percentage points from last year's record-breaking drive in which BART employees contributed \$77,000.

"However, our goal is also 100 percent employee contact," said Al Garcia of the Hayward Yard, one of this year's three campaign coordinators.

Police Sgt. Ben Dabalos is leading the campaign with the third co-coordinator, John Siersema, senior systems analyst in the Information Systems Department.

Donor representatives, who will attend a two-hour training session, will be responsible for contacting each and every BART employee during the campaign which ends Oct. 29.

Police Captain Tommy Sowell will make his debut as emcee of the United Way "show," backed up by Paul Varacalli.

Gina Sotelo, sister of BART employee

Anita Tuazon, will sing and station agent Linda Ramirez will give her rendition of some Latin favorites.

Mal Sharpe's jazz band will once again provide the music and the humor will be handled by "clowns" George Ross, Lee Parker and Frank Soares.

Last year the United Way served 1.8 million men, women and children by providing funds to 270 human service groups in five Bay Area counties. Approximately one out of three residents receive some form of assistance in programs ranging from day care to help for the sick and elderly. **b**

## '86 BART Picnic Was A Roaring Success

The "iffy" weather held out and the BART "Old-Fashioned Family Picnic" was held under sunny skies Sept. 27 at Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek.

One volleyball court was muddy and the dance floor held a few puddles but that didn't deter a bunch of "rockers," including top "barbequer" Ken Holmes, from taking to the floor to the music provided by "the World Famous Jerome," aka Jerome Taylor of Oakland.

"BART has always been lucky," said Ken, as he danced in his barbecue-stained apron with two partners, Brenda, 15, and Michelle, 18, the daughters of food chairman, Milt Waalkens, who did his usually sterling job of marshalling some 70 volunteers for a two-day effort to cook 3500 pounds of ribs and chicken and 300 pounds of hot dogs.

Lunch began at noon and the line didn't end until 4 p.m. with a lot of individuals lending a helping hand to the volunteers who had been on the site since 8 a.m. the day before. (See **PICNIC**—Page 4)



More than 2000 BART people—staff and families—had a great time at the 1986 annual picnic held this year at Castle Rock Park near Walnut Creek. Those who planned, prepared, served, and participated in the picnic's work should be given a rousing vote of thanks. It was the best picnic ever. Pictured here are some of the preparers, servers and a small part of the picnic crowd.



These United Way Donor reps are from the Maintenance and Engineering Departments. Pictured from left to right are: Hernan Barron, Pete Harrington, Karen Hill, Robert (R.C.) Campbell, Diana Graves, Carl Smith, and Dick Taylor.



Donor reps working in Field Services came out in full force for this photo. In the front row, from left to right are: John Sampson, Coyle Williams, Anthony Asberry, Jim Bunker, Pat Patubo, and Ernie Dandan; second row: Joe Hahner, Debra L. Smith, Margie Johnson, Flor Monroe, Deborah Higgs, Diane Johnson, Joe Arriola, and Tony Ross; third row: Mark Huddleston, Craig Anderson, Lambert Smith, Dave Kirstein, Bill Farr, Maurice Simmons, and Jim Danzy.



Donor reps from LMA/MET C are: (l-r) Victor Martinez, Vicki Wills, Jim Kestler, Lillian Roberts, Larry Williams, Linda Vasquez, Emily Hunt, Bert Mariscal, Bill Moore, Juli Olmedo, John McConnell, and Joe Torrissi.

Other donor reps who do not appear in the above photos are: Randy Rodrick, Ezell Daye, Liz McCarrie, Mike Webster, Herb Dunbar, Carol Lackman, Pat Walker, Minna Green, Mable Hinton, Nancy Ladd, Milt Waalkens, Chris Flynn, Roy Wadley, Doris Stanley, Bill Roe, Pat Edwards, Cliff Wong, W. H. Farrar, Dick Freitas, Clifford Chiu, and Dave McGuinness.



## SERVICES



**Robert Campbell**

was named donor representative for rolling stock as a result of his United Way work while an employee at the Bank of America in San Francisco.

"I felt there was a need for me to help other people," he said of his commitment. "There are a lot of people out there without a home or a place to eat. United Way is very important. They will give money to any charity of your choice. It's nice an organization will take the time to do that."

"Working as a public servant, it's important to be involved with United Way."



**Corinne Tyson**

After 22 years of involvement, Station Agent Corinne Tyson may hold the record as a United Way volunteer.

She first became active as a trainee with the Youth Opportunity Center when that Hunter's Point organization was headed by a budding politician named Ronald Dellums.

"I learned the United Way — then called United Crusade — supported the Hunter's Point Boys Club," Tyson said. "Before that I thought it was lily white. That was unusual in the 60's so I became interested in helping."

As the donor rep for the R/K line, she brought in 100 per cent participation by "telling people that the money is going for some good and that giving something — if only \$1 — is better than nothing at all."

"Employees who donate their money get to select the organization the money goes to. That's the part I like about it," Tyson said.

For three of the four years that she has been employed by BART, Information Systems secretary Brenda Robinson has volunteered her time as a donor representative.

But then she has a high degree of motivation — a son severely handicapped since his premature birth nine years ago.

"I have seen some of the programs that United Way has and I have always wanted to donate something back. I've received a lot of help for Lamont and by working with the campaign I know I am helping other kids like him. But I know from personal experience — United Way is there and it is there to help people," said Robinson.



**Brenda Robinson**



A four year United Way donor rep, Glenda Coates would not think of not assisting in the campaign.

"I feel so much better when I help people," the electronic technician trainee said. "I have never given a favor or a good deed that didn't come back to me. If it doesn't help you, it might help someone you love."



Glenda Coates

Glenda refutes the notion that "no one is getting helped by the United Way. Some of our employees might have relatives in a rest home and United Way volunteers will come in to entertain them, to wash their hair or just take them for a walk."

Glenda herself discovered that the child care facility attended by her daughter was partially funded by United Way.

**Electronic assembler Minna Green is another United Way donor representative who was "volunteered" by her supervisor two years ago. From a 58 percent participation, at Hayward ERS, Green brought the record to 78 percent and "we are**



Minna Green

shooting for 100 percent this year." I pester the heck out of people and they pay me just to get me off their backs," Green said.

It's not surprising, looking at Green's volunteer record, that she should be so successful in motivating others to help the less fortunate.

She serves on the board of Echo, a Hayward-based program to find low cost housing for seniors and others in need and has often steered clients in need of assistance to the appropriate United Way agency.

"The funding has been drastically cut for all the charities," Green points out, "but the need is still there. It's fallen on our shoulders and we just have to do it."

From being "one of those skeptics out there," Linda Vasques became a dedicated volunteer when her niece was born with a deformed foot and a United Way agency provided the brace that the family's medical insurance didn't cover.



Linda Vasques

"That hit close to home," said Vasques, adding that her niece has fully recovered from her condition.

For two years Vasques has been an LMA Field Services donor rep and points with pride to a 100 percent participation achievement.

She says she gets a better response when she explains that donors may give to any of the 270 UW funded charities.



One of the added attractions at this year's employee picnic was "face painting" — some faces may not be washed for a week, if the children have their way!

## TWO TRAINS TO BE ADDED TO COMMUTE ON NOV. 3

Beginning Nov. 3, BART will add two trains during the morning and afternoon commute periods, one on the Concord-Daly City line, the other on the Fremont-Daly City line, bringing to 45 the total number of peak hour trains operating on the system. The additional trains are an outcome of BART's completing its "fire hardening" program, which for the past four years necessitated having 16 cars a day out of service while undergoing refurbishment. With the completion of the program, these 16 cars may now be scheduled for daily train service.

For passengers on the Fremont line, a seven car train will be scheduled to run ahead of the most heavily patronized train in both the morning and afternoon commute periods. The extra train will be scheduled so as to arrive in San Francisco in time for commuters to be at work by around 8 a.m. In the afternoon, the train is scheduled to depart San Francisco at around 5 p.m.

On the Concord-San Francisco/Daly City line, an extra six-car train will arrive in San Francisco at around 7:14 a.m. For the evening commute back to Concord, the six-car train will depart San Francisco at 5:55 p.m.

In addition to the extra trains on the Concord and Fremont lines, BART will add an extra car to two Richmond trains departing

San Francisco during the evening commute period. BART will also add one car to the most crowded train operating on the Richmond-Fremont line, which leaves downtown Oakland just after 5 p.m.

A passenger bulletin containing revised time tables showing exact departure times of the two extra trains will soon be available at BART stations. **b3**



Pictured here are the recent graduates of Hayward Training Center's Transit Vehicle Mechanic up-grade class with TVM Instructor Barry Love (standing-right). The group came from a variety of job backgrounds at BART and completed their training with an outstanding grade average of 95.3 percent.

Seated left to right are Brad Burquin, Liz Kimura and Robert Fernandez. Standing, left to right, are David Smith, Jim Pate and Love. Burquin, Kimura and Fernandez are working at Richmond Shop and Smith is at Hayward Shop.

## Special Note From Editor

In the last issue of BARTalk, on page 4, there appeared a story about retirement planning workshops. We wish to emphasize that at BART, there is no mandatory retirement age. Also due to limited space the initial workshop will be offered only to public safety employees who may elect to retire within five years at age 50 or older and to all other BART employees who may elect to retire within five years at age 60 or older.

## BARTalk

A publication for and about the employees of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District.  
800 Madison St., Oakland, CA 94607  
(415) 464-6000

**Keith Bernard** ..... General Manager  
**Mike Healy** ..... Dept. Manager, Public Affairs

### BARTalk Staff

**Sy Moubert** ..... Managing Editor  
**Sandy Tibbets** ..... Asst. Managing Editor  
**Vicki Wills** ..... Circulation  
**Art Richardson** ..... Staff Artist

**Special Note:** Editors reserve the right to edit, revise, reduce or discard any materials submitted for publication. Any material appearing in this publication may be reproduced with appropriate credit.

## One Of Ours In World-Class Races

Mel Brooks, a maintenance worker in BART's Power & Way division, has claimed fame as a member of the USA Masters team which set a World Record at the 1st International Speed Championships held in July at the San Luis International Track and Field Stadium, Lima, Peru.

Crossing the finish line at 1:30.6, his team of five USA Master Athletes clipped almost two seconds off the standing record of 1:32.0 for the "4 x 200" meter relay—a record challenged by every participating country since 1981 when it was set by the Southern California Striders track team. A "4 x 200" means each member of the relay team runs 200-meters, a distance of nearly a quarter-mile. Brooks' team of Master Athletes represented the West Valley Track Club and was comprised of four men, between the ages of 40–49 years. This was one week after a competition in New York, where they took first prize in both the 4 x 200 and 4 x 400 events.

After an exhausting 7000-mile flight, the team expected to get a night's rest then participate in the opening day ceremonies. When they arrived in Lima at close to midnight they were met at the airport by a games official who informed them they would be competing the very next day. Still feeling the effects of jet lag, they arrived at the track and were given two more surprises. Instead of running against a team of International Juniors, they were informed they would have no one to compete against in their race—they would be racing against time and themselves in their quest of beating the world record.

And where to next? "To New Zealand in 1987, for the World Class Olympic Masters Games," said Brooks. **b**



BART's Mel Brooks (R) shown here in Peru with winning team mates (l-r), Stan Whitley, Pomona, CA, Dennis Duffy, Fresno and Bill Knocke, Culver City.

(PICNIC — From Page 1)

Among the volunteers pressed into service was District Secretary Phil Ormsbee who said "I always think that these things turn out beautifully and they should be because a lot of work goes into them. Everyone at BART really pulls together on things like this and it takes an awful lot to put them together."

General Manager Keith Bernard was a late arrival (due to a son's soccer game) and was lucky enough to miss the "dunk tank" this year. Not so lucky, picnic chairman Rodney Williams, who was the first in the tank and was sacked three times in a row by a budding young pitcher by the name of Malgy Blue, the 11-year-old son of Affirmative Action's Brenda Blue.

The day's activities included a treasure hunt (candy was the "find"), face-painting, gunny sack and three-legged races, a water balloon toss, tug-of-war and pinata bashing for youngsters aged 2 and up.

There was also swimming, volleyball (on two courts that had not been inundated by

the previous night's rain) and horse shoes.

A booth doing brisk business was at the entrance to the picnic grounds. The big-sellers were the tee-shirts reading "BART Picnic '85," because BARTalk was told "we ordered too many last year." The '86 picnic-goers found them a great bargain at \$3 each or two for \$5.

Toastmasters International, People Movers division (BART, ABAG and MTC), provided multi-colored helium balloons for the kids and staged a raffle won by Fred White, Auditing, (an afghan) and Emma Jones (a remote-controlled plane.)

At day's end Milt Waalkens, his once-pristine white chef's hat splattered with his own homemade barbecue sauce, decreed the picnic the "best ever" as he and his weary staff of volunteers loaded the equipment back aboard the two trucks leased for the occasion.

The pots and pans will be steam-cleaned and reactivated in time for BART's next "Old-Fashioned Family Picnic." **b**



If the ribs and chicken tasted good, and they did, then these are the guys who were primarily responsible. Chief Cook Milt Waalkens, President SEIU, Local 790, BART chapter, second from the left, outdid himself this year, with the help of (l-r): Randy McCluney, Vice President, SEIU, Local 790, BART chapter; Ken Holmes, Concord Stores; Dennis Wilkerson, OCY; Clarence Lucas, Cash Handling; and Wayne Dolan, OSA.



Rodney Williams, '86 Picnic Coordinator was dunked several times . . . do you think it was something you said, Rod?



Another added attraction at this year's picnic was the "Pinata Bash" . . . a hefty swing that missed.